

**SARAH R. STAR, ESQ. RECEIVED**  
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March 17, 2015

**BY CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Robert Werner  
 Enforcement Officer (6SF-TE)  
 United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 Region 6  
 1445 Ross Avenue  
 Dallas, TX 75202

Re: General Notice Letter for the CES Environmental Services, Inc. –  
 Houston Superfund Site directed to Zap-Lok Pipeline Systems, Inc.

Dear Mr. Werner:

I am writing on behalf of what was formerly Zap-Lok Pipeline Systems, Inc (“Zap-Lok”). Zap-Lok was a business owned by my father (affiant, David B. Roberts), and is no longer in operation. Zap-Lok typically employed 15-30 people and was a Massachusetts corporation registered to do business in Texas, where it assembled pipelines (mostly small gathering lines) using a hydraulic press as an alternative to welding. The Zap-Lok technology was sold to another company in 2012, and my father has retired. He asked me to draft this letter.

In its preparation of pipe for joining by the Zap-Lok machine (hydraulic press) soapy water was applied to the ends of the pipe as a lubricant. This process is described in greater detail in the Affidavit attached hereto as Exhibit A. The lubricant soap that was used is called “Liqui-Lube” and is non-toxic and non-hazardous. The MSDS for Liqui-Lube is also attached, and as you can see, it does not fall under any CERCLA designation. The soap (which was diluted to 3% soap, 97% water) was collected on several occasions by CES before Zap-Lok learned of that company’s difficulties. Mr. Roberts and I have reviewed Zap-Lok’s records and have concluded that the soapy water is the only substance ever handled by CES on behalf of Zap-Lok. We hope that you examine the materials we have provided and conclude that no further action is required by Mr. Roberts regarding this matter.

Thank you for your important work, and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

  
 Sarah Star, Esq.

## AFFIDAVIT OF DAVID B. ROBERTS

I, David B. Roberts, of Boston, Massachusetts, on oath, swear and affirm that the following is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge:

1. Until 2012, I was the sole owner and president of Zap-Lok Pipeline Systems, Inc., a Massachusetts Corporation registered to do business in Texas. I am now retired.
2. I am familiar with the company's records, and I have completed a thorough review to identify any waste shipments between Zap-Lok and CES Environmental Services. All of the manifests and records show that all shipments, including those identified in EPA's General Notice Letter for the CES Environmental Services, Inc. – Houston Superfund Site dated February 27, 2015, were comprised entirely of non-hazardous substances - specifically, soap and water.
3. The material identified in the manifests and records originated from mixing water with "Liqui-Lube," an MSDS for which is attached hereto as Exhibit B. This mixture was then used as a lubricant for a process that involved expanding, or stretching, cold steel pipe with a mandrel. The lubricant was then rinsed off the pipe with water, and the rinse water was collected in large tanks for removal. The soapy water consisted of approximately 3 % Liqui-Lube and 97% water.
4. As shown on the MSDS, the active ingredients in Liqui-Lube are water, plus three different potassium soaps – potassium cocoate (a/k/a potassium coco soap, derived from whole coconut oil); potassium soyate (a/k/a potassium soya soap derived from whole soya oil); and potassium tallate (a/k/a potassium soap of tall oil derived from pine pulp). As shown on the MSDS, Liqui-Lube and its ingredients are non-hazardous.

5. I have compared the listed ingredients of Liqui-Lube shown on the MSDS to the lists of chemical compounds defined as "hazardous substances" under Section 101(14) of CERCLA. Neither Liqui-Lube nor any of its ingredients appears in the lists of hazardous substances under CERCLA. Therefore, the soapy mixture of water and Liqui-Lube shipped between Zap-Lok and CES Environmental Services was not a hazardous substance as defined under CERCLA.

#### VERIFICATION

I, David B. Roberts, on oath, do swear and affirm that the foregoing affidavit is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

March 30, 2015

David B. Roberts

Date

David B. Roberts

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

City of Boston, to wit:

Sworn to and subscribed before me by David B. Roberts this 30 day of March 2015.

Abir Haider

Notary Public





ABIR HAIDAR  
Notary Public  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
My Commission Expires Feb. 12, 2021

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET



## LIQUI-LUBE

HMIS		NFPA	Personal protective equipment	
Health	2	2	 	
Fire Hazard	0	0		
Reactivity	0	0		

Version Number: 1

Preparation date: 2008-01-25

## 1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

**Product name:** LIQUI-LUBE  
**MSDS #:** DUB00005  
**Product Code:** 02850012, 02850481  
**Recommended use:** Concentrated Lubricant.

**Manufacturer, importer, supplier:**

JohnsonDiversey, Inc.  
 3630 E. Kemper Rd.  
 Cincinnati, OH 45241  
 Phone: 1-800-438-2647

Canadian Headquarters  
 JohnsonDiversey - Canada, Inc.  
 2401 Bristol Circle  
 Oakville, Ontario L6H 6P1  
 Phone: 1-800-668-7171

**Emergency telephone number:** 1-800-851-7145 (Prosar); 1-651-917-6133 (Int'l Prosar); 01-800-710-3400 (México)

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

**EMERGENCY OVERVIEW**

WARNING: CAUSES EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION.

**Principle routes of exposure:** Eye contact. Skin contact. Inhalation.  
**Eye contact:** Severe eye irritation.  
**Skin contact:** Moderately irritating to the skin.  
**Inhalation:** May be irritating to nose, throat, and respiratory tract.  
**Ingestion:** May cause irritation to mouth, throat and stomach.

## 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

**Hazardous components** None

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

**Eye contact:** Immediately flush eyes with running water for at least 15 minutes, keeping eyelids open. Get medical attention.  
**Skin contact:** Flush immediately with plenty of water. If irritation persists, get medical attention.  
**Inhalation:** If breathing is affected, remove to fresh air. Get medical attention immediately.  
**Ingestion:** Give a cupful of water or milk. THEN IMMEDIATELY CONTACT A PHYSICIAN OR POISON CENTER. DO NOT induce vomiting unless directed to do so by medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.  
**Aggravated Medical Conditions:** Persons with pre-existing skin disorders may be more susceptible to irritating effects.

## 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

**Suitable extinguishing media:** Dry chemical, water spray, foam, carbon dioxide.  
**Specific hazards:** Not applicable  
**Unusual hazards:** None known  
**Specific methods:** No special methods required

**Special protective equipment for firefighters:** As in any fire, wear self-contained breathing apparatus pressure-demand, MSHA/NIOSH (approved or equivalent) and full protective gear

**Extinguishing media which must not be used for safety reasons:** No information available

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

**Personal precautions:** Contaminated surfaces will be extremely slippery. Use personal protective equipment.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### Environmental precautions and clean-up methods:

Clean-up methods - large spillage. Prevent product from entering drains. Absorb spill with inert material (e.g. dry sand or earth), then place in a chemical waste container. Use a water rinse for final clean-up.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

### Handling:

Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing. Do not taste or swallow. Remove and wash contaminated clothing and footwear before re-use. Wash thoroughly after handling. Product residue may remain on/in empty containers. All precautions for handling the product must be used in handling the empty container and residue. FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USE ONLY.

### Storage:

Protect from freezing. Keep tightly closed in a dry, cool and well-ventilated place. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

### Engineering measures to reduce exposure:

No special ventilation requirements. General room ventilation is adequate.

### Personal Protective Equipment

#### Eye protection:

Chemical-splash goggles.

#### Hand protection:

Chemical-resistant gloves

#### Skin and body protection:

No special protective clothing is required.

#### Respiratory protection:

No special requirements under normal use conditions.

#### Hygiene measures:

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Physical State:	Liquid	Bulk density:	No information available
pH:	11.5	Dilution pH:	9.5 (1%)
Appearance:	Aqueous solution	Vapor density:	No information available
Color:	Red, Brown	Evaporation Rate	No information available
Odor:	Mild	Boiling point/range:	Not determined
Specific gravity:	1.02	Melting point/range:	Not determined
Density:	8.5 lbs/gal	Decomposition temperature:	Not determined
VOC:	0% *	Autoignition temperature:	No information available
Flash point:	>200°F >93.3°C	Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water):	No information available
Solubility:	completely soluble	Solubility in other solvents:	No information available
Viscosity:	No information available	Elemental Phosphorus:	0 %P

\* - Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Division 3, Chapter 1, Subchapter 8.5, Article 2, Consumer Products, Sections 94508

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability:	The product is stable
Polymerization:	Hazardous polymerization does not occur
Hazardous decomposition products:	None reasonably foreseeable.
Materials to avoid:	Oxidising agents. Acids.
Conditions to avoid:	Do not freeze.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Acute toxicity:	Oral LD50 estimated to be between 4000 - 5000 mg/kg . Dermal LD50 estimated to be > 2000 mg/kg.
Component Information:	See Section 3
Chronic toxicity:	None known
Specific effects	
Carcinogenic effects:	None known
Mutagenic effects:	None known
Reproductive toxicity:	None known
Target organ effects:	None known

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Environmental Information:	No data available
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### 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Waste from residues / unused products:**

Dispose of according to all federal, state and local applicable regulations.

### 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

**DOT/TDG:** Please refer to the Bill of Lading/receiving documents for up to date shipping information

### 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

**International Inventories**

All components of this product are listed on the following inventories: U.S.A. (TSCA), Canada (DSL/NDSL), Europe (EINECS/ELINCS/NLP), Australia (AICS), Korea (ECL), New Zealand (NZIoC), China (IECSC).

**U.S. Regulations**

**California Proposition 65:** This product is not subject to the reporting requirements under California's Proposition 65

**STATE RIGHT TO KNOW**

Ingredient(s)	CAS #	MARTK:	NJRTK:	PARTK:	RIRTK:
Water	7732-18-5	-	-	-	-
Potassium cocoate	61789-30-8	-	-	-	-
Potassium Soyate	61790-24-7	-	-	-	-
Potassium tallate	61790-44-1	-	-	-	-

**CERCLA/ SARA**

None

**CAA HAP/CAA ODS/CWA Priority Pollutants:** None

**SARA 311/312 Hazard Categories**

Immediate: X  
Delayed: -  
Fire: -  
Reactivity: -  
Sudden Release of Pressure: -

**Canada**

**WHMIS hazard class:** D2B Toxic materials.



### 16. OTHER INFORMATION

**Reason for revision:** Not applicable  
**Prepared by:** NAPRAC  
**Additional advice:** None

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David B. Robert:

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Mr. Robert Werner

Enforcement Officer (6SF-TE)  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
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Dallas, TX 75202

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